

Carlalberto Ravizza

Leuctra marani Rauser, new for the Greek stonefly-fauna (Insecta, Plecoptera)

Abstract - A small series of adult males and females of *Leuctra marani* Rauser, so far never found in Greece, has been collected along a rivulet at 1,500 m a.s.l. in the upper part of Mt. Vrontous in the north of Greek Macedonia. A few comment about some morphological details in males are made; original drawings of adults of both sexes are presented.

Key words: Plecoptera, Leuctridae, Greece.

Riassunto - *Leuctra marani* Rauser, specie nuova per la plecoterofauna greca.

Viene segnalata la prima cattura in Grecia di una serie di adulti di *Leuctra marani* Rauser lungo un ruscello a 1.500 m s.l.m. sul monte Vrontous, nella Grecia settentrionale verso il confine con la Bulgaria. Sono commentati alcuni dettagli morfologici dei maschi corredati con disegni originali degli adulti di ambedue i sessi.

Parole chiave: Plecoptera, Leuctridae, Grecia.

Among the material of Plecoptera collected by Maurizio Pavesi, an entomologist of the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Milano, during one of his annual entomological trips in Greece, there were a few adult males and females of *L. marani* Rauser, a species so far never found within the Greek boundaries.

The specimens, 8 males and 1 female, were collected on the 20th May 2000 along a single slow-flowing rivulet crossing a beech wood at 1,500 m a.s.l., just below the Lailiás Ski centre, flowing from the Oros (=mount) Vrontous, in the north of Greek Macedonia, near the Bulgarian border.

The males of the population of *Leuctra marani* from Greece differ in a few details from those belonging to the type series from the Central Rodope massif. I think it is helpful to give some drawings of the Greek specimens (Fig. 1 *b-i*) that may be compared with the one by Rauser, 1965 (Fig. 1 *a*). The Greek male specimens are characterized by the shortening of the unpaired forked process of the 8th tergum, by the shape of the pigmented spot as shown in fig. 1 *b-c* and by the peculiarly club-shaped cerci. Besides, the forked process is very different in shape among the Greek specimens (Fig. 1 *e-f*).

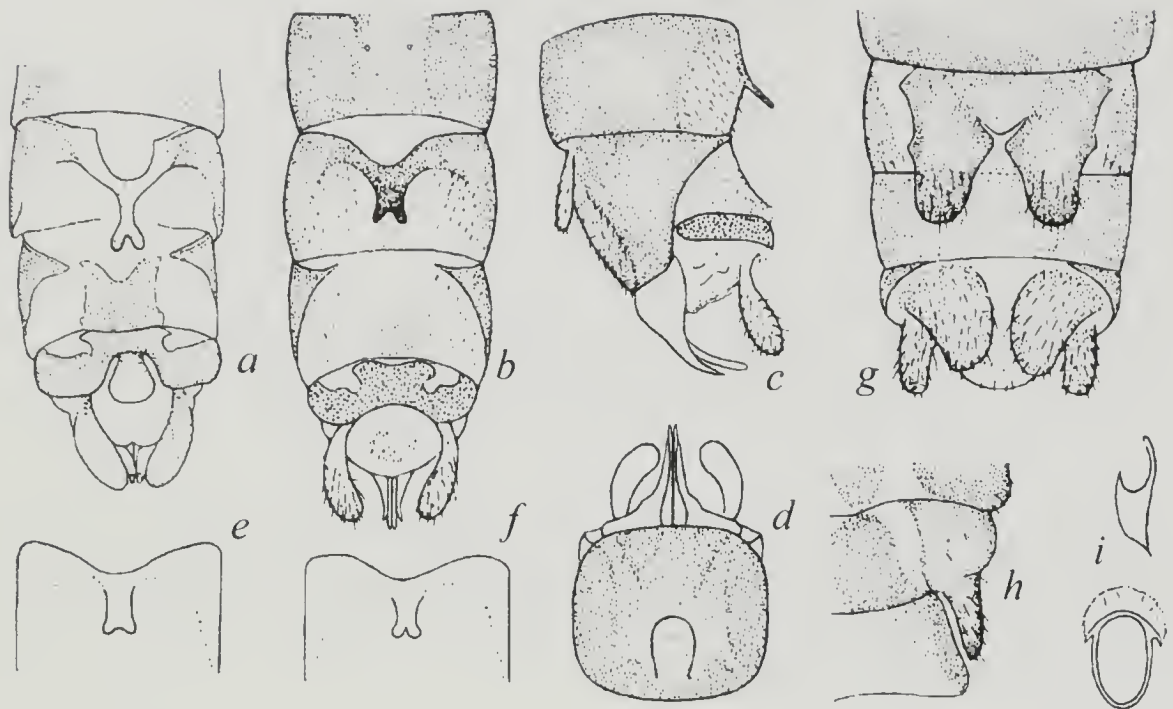


Fig. 1 - Genitalia of *Leuctra marani* Rauser. a) Tip of the male abdomen (holotypus) in dorsal view, after Rauser, 1965. b-i) Specimens from Greece. Tip of the male abdomen in dorsal (b), lateral (c) and ventral (d) view; e-f) variability of unpaired process of 8th tergum; female subgenital plate in ventral (g) and lateral (h) view; i) spermathecal sclerite in ventral and lateral view.

Fig. 1 - Genitali di *Leuctra marani* Rauser. a) Estremità dell'addome del maschio (olotipo) in visione dorsale, da Rauser, 1965. b-i) Esemplari dalla Grecia. Estremità dell'addome del maschio in visione dorsale (b), laterale (c) e ventrale (d); e-f) variabilità del processo impari dell'8° urotergo; visione ventrale (g) e laterale (h) della placca subgenitale femminile; i) sclerite spermatecale in visione ventrale e laterale.

The collected series confirms that *L. marani* is a late spring emerger, and a rheophilic and orophilic species, living in mountain brooklets. Since the specimens collected were males associated with only one female, it appears that the onset of the emergence time is in late May and the heaviest emergence should occur in June.

L. marani resembles a few species in both the *prima* subgroup and the *brevipennis* subgroup. The *prima* subgroup comprises species with a wide variety of unpaired process and emergences time scattered in all seasons, while the *brevipennis* subgroup includes exclusively a few short-winged autumnal species, micro-endemic to restricted areas on the southern slopes of the central and western Alps. The lobes of the subgenital plate of the female of *L. marani* recall those of *L. vesulensis* Rav. & Rav. Dem., which is a member of the *brevipennis* subgroup, but the subgenital plates of the four species belonging to the *brevipennis* subgroup are very different from one another. It is a subject for discussion whether *L. marani* belongs to the *prima* subgroup, as Authors stated, or to the *brevipennis* subgroup, as Vinçon & Sivec, 2001 suggested.

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References

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